

Radnor Township Environmental Advisory Council
Annual Report
2010

I. EAC Members.

In 2010, the Radnor Township Environmental Advisory Council (“EAC”) consisted of the following seven at-large voting members:

Brenda Gotanda, Chair
Josh Hilbert, Vice-Chair
Robin Mann
Anne Poulin
Dave Prescott
Heather Reilly
Sloan Walker

Non-voting liaison members of the EAC during 2010 included:

Herb Hazan & Genevieve Burns, Board of Health Representatives
Julia Hurle & Skip Kunda, Planning Commission Representatives

II. EAC Workgroups

The EAC was organized into several workgroups, each having responsibility to advance EAC initiatives between meetings and identify potential issues and agenda items related to their workgroup topic. These workgroups included: Climate Protection/Emissions Inventory; Sustainability; WaterSense; Open Space; and Community Environmental Education.

III. EAC Activities During 2010

A. Announcements and Information

The EAC regularly provided announcements and information regarding environmental programs, events, and issues that may be of interest to the Radnor community.

B. Climate Protection/Emissions Inventory

The EAC presented the results of the Radnor Township Emissions Inventory to the Board of Commissioners (“BOC”) on January 11, 2010. Thereafter, the EAC met with various stakeholders in the Township to discuss ideas and solicit input for development of a Climate Protection Action Plan, including Township staff, police, and school district representatives. The EAC is currently developing the proposed Action Plan.

C. Sustainability Series

The EAC continued its community education series on sustainability topics, presented in collaboration with the Radnor Conservancy and the Radnor League of Women Voters.

This series, initiated in 2009, has covered the following topics:

- Conservation Development: Lightening the Footprint of Growth (1/31/11)
- Discovering Your Carbon Footprint & How to Tread More Lightly (3/9/10)
- Greening Your Own Home: What Residents Can Do (10/1/09)
- Alternative, Renewable Energy Sources (5/18/09)
- Green Building 101 (1/29/09)

D. WaterSense Partnership

The EAC submitted a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners (“BOC”) that Radnor Township become a “Promotional Partner” in the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) WaterSense Program. The BOC approved the recommendation and Radnor became a Promotional Partner in the program in 2010.

EPA’s WaterSense Program promotes water efficiency and conservation by enhancing the market for water-efficient products, programs and practices. The Program promotes public education and awards a “WaterSense” label to products and programs that meet its water efficiency and performance criteria. EPA maintains a WaterSense website, which allows consumers to identify water-efficient products and programs meeting the WaterSense standards and criteria. EPA partners with industry sectors (manufacturers, retailers, landscape irrigation professionals, etc.) in order to promote innovation in product development, product marketing and other goals. EPA also seeks to have state and local governments join the program as “promotional partners” who will promote the value of water efficiency and WaterSense labeled products/programs and encourage eligible constituencies to participate in WaterSense. Promotional partners provide an annual update to EPA describing any educational efforts they have made relevant to the program.

The EAC implemented the program in 2010 by posting WaterSense educational material on the Radnor website, placing materials in the lobby of the Township building, distributing information at the Radnor Township Fall Festival, and providing water saving tips and conservation ideas at its monthly EAC meetings.

E. Green Building and Alternative Energy

The EAC investigated various programs and initiatives to promote green building in our community, discussed these at its meetings, and met with Township staff to obtain input and solicit feedback. In addition, at the request of Township staff, the EAC reviewed and provided comment on several draft alternative energy ordinances currently under consideration (solar, wind, geothermal).

F. Trash, Recycling and Yard Waste Collection

The EAC sought, and provided to the public, updates on the trash, recycling, and yard waste collection programs in the Township, with the goal to increase recycling and decrease waste generation in our community.

G. Radnor Green Website

The EAC developed the Radnor Green section of the Township's website in 2009 in order to provide a single point of entry for citizens interested in environmental and sustainability related information. During 2010, the EAC continued to add information and update the website to keep the information current.

H. Open Space

The EAC participated in Radnor's Open Space Committee and in the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee's Subcommittee on Parks and Open Space.

I. Community Environmental Education & Schools

The EAC provided updates to the public on environmental education topics and activities at the elementary schools.

J. EAC Network

The EAC monitored the Pennsylvania Environmental Council ("PEC") EAC network postings and shared information of potential public interest with the Radnor community. In addition, an EAC member participated in planning PEC's annual EAC conference and gave a presentation on Radnor's greenhouse gas inventory at the conference.

K. Collaboration with Shade Tree Commission

The EAC invited Howard Holden, Chair of the Radnor Shade Tree Commission ("STC"), to an EAC meeting to discuss the relationship between the STC and the EAC and potential opportunities for collaboration. Mr. Holden and the EAC discussed potential opportunities for collaboration on various projects.

L. Electric Vehicle Charging Pilot Project

The EAC solicited the Township's participation in a grant application submitted by Community Energy for funding to develop an electric vehicle charging station pilot program. Community Energy would like to install charging centers in prominent locations along the Main Line to promote interest in electrical vehicles. The Township agreed to make two parking spots available for this pilot program should the grant be awarded to Community Energy.